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Notes.

LOUIS XVI., THE SANSON FAMILY, ROBESPIERRE, AND THE GUILLOTINE.

I borrow the contents of the present note from the 'Mémoires des Sanson,' 6 vols. (Paris, Dupray de la Mahérie, 1862–1863). I have had some trouble in putting my note together, as there is no index and only a very brief table of contents, for it is composed of nothing more than the headings of the chapters, and these, for the most part, are less than one line in length. The work does not seem to be well known in England, for I never see it quoted; and I do not know what credit it enjoys in France. It seems to have some little value there, however, for my second-hand copy, purchased less than a year ago, cost me 3*l*. But it is a fine copy and in a good half-binding. Six members of the family reigned in succession as the head executioners of Paris, viz., from 1688 to 1847,* and the last of them, chiefly author, but partly editor of the Memoirs,† seems to have retired principally in consequence of having no son to succeed him (vi. 155), for he was only forty-eight years of age at the time of his retirement. The first Sanson (Charles Sanson de Longval) was a man of good birth and an officer in the French army. If he became an executioner, it was simply because he was so madly in love with a girl, whom he subsequently discovered to be the only daughter of a provincial executioner, that he married her, although he knew that he should have to submit to the rule of those days that the husband of the only daughter of an executioner must succeed to his father-in-law's post. He thus came, in the first instance, to be executioner at Rouen; but on the early death of his wife he moved (in 1685) to Paris, and in 1688 was appointed chief executioner there. C. H. Sanson, however, was looked upon as the most remarkable man of the family, chiefly on account of the number and importance of the executions which he conducted, but also because he was a man of much force of character.

I will begin by giving some account of two interviews which C. H. Sanson had with Louis XVI., and which, in the light of their third and final meeting on the scaffold, might be looked upon (especially the second) as singular coincidences. The first interview (iii. 292–299) took place on 19 April, 1789. Sanson's salary was so much in arrears that 136,000 livres were due to him. As he had, in consequence, fallen much into debt, he sent a petition to the king, and a few days afterwards he was summoned to his presence. This time, the king received him at Versailles as a king, and listened graciously to the statement of his case. At first, Louis kept his eyes averted, but when at length he did look at Sanson, he was unable to repress an involuntary shudder, due either to a presentiment or to the horror inspired by the sight of the well-known executioner. When he heard, however, that Sanson's liberty was menaced, he expressed his sorrow that the condition of the finances of the State would not allow of immediate payment, and gave him a *sauf-conduit* signed by himself, and exempting him from arrest for debt for three months. Sanson then left the king, but before he reached the entrance of the palace he accidentally came across the queen, who was coming down the grand staircase, imposing and majestic, and the Princess Elizabeth, with the face of an angel, who was hastening out of a side-room to welcome her sister-in-law at the bottom. Little did he think then that he was destined to behead them, and that so soon! He himself terms this "une coincidence étrange."

The second interview is still more remarkable. It took place on 2 March, 1792, and the account of it will be found in vol. iii. 399–406. Dr. Antoine Louis, the king's physician, had been charged by the "Assemblée" to give his opinion with regard to the new method of beheading which had shortly before been proposed by Dr. Guillotin. Louis,

* Charles Sanson (de Longval), 1688–1703; Charles Sanson, 1703–1726; Charles Jean Baptiste Sanson, 1726 (when he was only seven)–1778; Charles Henry Sanson, 1778 (though he virtually replaced his paralyzed father in 1754)–1806; Henry Sanson, 1806–1819; and Henry Sanson the second, 1819–1847.

† Most of the Sansons left notes or a journal behind them, and he has made use of these, sometimes giving verbatim extracts.

therefore, sent for Dr. Guillotin and requested him to bring Sanson with him, as a third person, whose name he did not mention, intended to be present at the interview and wished to be able to consult Sanson if he should find it necessary. Accordingly, Guillotin and Sanson went to the palace of the Tuileries and were introduced into the room which Dr. Louis had there. Shortly afterwards, this third person did come into the room, and it was the king. He had heard of the commission which had been entrusted to Dr. Louis, and naturally took great interest in the matter. For not only did he himself possess great skill in the workmanship of iron, but as a king—so he declared—he could not be indifferent to a mode of execution which it was thought would mitigate the sufferings of such of his subjects as might be unfortunate enough to come under the hands of the executioner.*

On this occasion the king was attired in plain and sombre clothes, and it being evident that he desired to maintain his incognito, he was addressed simply as "Monsieur." He asked Dr. Louis what he thought of the drawing of the machine, which was all they had before them, and the doctor expressed his entire satisfaction with it and handed it to the king. He looked at it for a minute or two in silence and then shook his head as though in doubt. It is well known that the knife of the guillotine which was finally adopted is triangular, but it seems that in this plan the side which would fall upon the neck formed a crescent. At length the king said :—

"Ce fer en forme de croissant, est-il bien là ce qu'il faut? Croyez-vous qu'un fer ainsi découpé puisse s'adapter exactement à tous les cous? Il en est qu'il ne ferait qu'entamer, et d'autres qu'il n'embrasserait même pas."

Sanson was much struck by the exactness of this observation, and casting his eyes, mechanically almost, upon the king's neck, which his thin lace cravat left almost bare, he noticed at once that it was so thick and muscular as to be much too large for the crescent of the plan. Then the king, having asked the doctor if Sanson was the man ("l'homme"), expressed his desire to hear his opinion, and Sanson gave it as follows :—

"*Monsieur* [and he laid a certain stress upon this word] a parfaitement raison; la forme du couperet pourrait amener quelques difficultés."

The king smiled, and taking up a pen from the table, he substituted an oblique line for the crescent in the drawing. Experiments were afterwards made upon dead bodies, and finally the king's recommendation was adopted. Less than a year after this interview the king's head was cut off by Sanson with a knife made in accordance with his own suggestions.

This Sanson seems really to have had a knack of falling in with remarkable people whom afterwards he had to deal with on the scaffold. In June (27 Prairial), 1794 (see vol. v. 207-211), wearied out in mind and body by the ever-increasing number of executions of the Reign of Terror, he at length obtained one day's holiday, and he employed it in taking two of his nieces into the country, though in the immediate neighbourhood of Paris. They were walking through a cornfield, and the children had gone on in front, and after picking red and blue corn-flowers, they saw some wild roses in a hedge and ran off to it, but pricked their fingers instead of getting the roses. At this moment Sanson, who was sitting down, remarked a "citizen" coming along the path, accompanied by a large mastiff. He stopped to help the children, cut some roses, made them into a nosegay, and gave half to each of them. They were so delighted that they kissed him, and then their uncle saw them all three proceeding towards him, the little girls chattering and the citizen smiling. Sanson quickly recognized him; it was Robespierre :—

"Il était vêtu d'un habit bleu, mais d'une couleur plus foncée que celui que je lui ai vu le 20 de ce mois; d'une culotte jaune et d'un gilet blanc. Ses cheveux étaient arrangés et poudrés avec une sorte de coquetterie; il tenait son chapeau au bout d'une petite canne qu'il avait placée sur son épaule. Sa démarche était très raide; il portait la tête un peu renversée en arrière; mais sa physionomie avait une expression d'enjouement qui m'étonna."*

He asked me if the children were mine. I said "No, they were my nieces." He complimented me upon them, mixing up his compliments with questions which he addressed to them. The elder one then made up a little nosegay and gave it to him, and he put it in his buttonhole. All had gone well so far, but then unfortunately it came into his head to ask the child her name, so that he might, he said, remember her when the flowers were faded. She gave it in full, Christian and surname, and when he heard this last, "jamais je n'ai vu une face humaine se bouleverser plus soudainement." He drew back as if he had trodden upon a serpent; his forehead gathered into a thousand wrinkles; his eyelids quivered, but his eyes looked at me with a fixed stare; his complexion, habitually sallow, became of an earthy hue; he ceased to smile, and his face assumed an expression of incredible hardness. At length he spoke with a harsh voice and a haughty tone, such as I should not have expected to find in the apostle of equality. "Vous êtes....."; but as

* This was no mere talk, for Louis XVI. was a humane man, and as recently as 1788 (iii. 181) a man had been condemned to be broken on the wheel and had been saved from execution by the bystanders only, who believed him to be innocent and destroyed the wheel. The guillotine, therefore, did take the place of horrible instruments of torture, and the abuse which was afterwards made of it could not then be foreseen.

* As the first person has been used in this quotation from C. H. Sanson's journal, I think it better to go on with it.

I at once bowed he did not finish his sentence. He then remained absorbed for a minute or two, and once or twice I thought he was going to speak, but he did not. Finally, recovering himself a little, he bent forward to the children, embraced them very tenderly, then called to his dog, and went away without again looking at me. Before the next month was out his head had fallen under the hands of this same Sanson.

In a subsequent note I may, perhaps, be allowed to give a brief account of the history of the guillotine as I find it in Sanson. In no book that I have consulted have I found exactly the same account as that given by Sanson, and in nearly all many of the details are evidently incorrect. In the last edition of the 'Encyc. Brit.,' however, there is something like accuracy, but the tale is told in a bald and unpicturesque way.

F. Chance.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL EXHIBIT AT THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

(*Continued from* 8th S. viii. 405.)

The first published work relating to the new-found land* was the letter of Columbus. While on his homeward voyage in 1493 Columbus indited two epistles, one to the Crown Treasurer and the other to Luis Santangel, who had advanced funds to cover the cost of this first expedition. Of the original MSS. of these letters no trace has ever been found; but the former was translated into Latin†—very poor Latin, too—by Leander or Aliander de Cosco, a notary, and six early editions were published, all appearing in the year 1493. Of these, three—the second, fifth, and sixth—were exhibited. The first edition is a plain quarto pamphlet of four leaves, without illustrations, or even an initial letter. Copies are preserved in the British Museum, at Munich, and in the Lenox and Boston Public Libraries, for which last three thousand dollars was paid in 1890. The title of this edition is as follows:—

"Epistola Christofori Colom: cui etas nostra multu' debet: de | Insulis Indie supra Gangem nuper inuentis. Ad quas perqui- | rendas octauo antea mense auspicijs et ære inuictissimi Fernan- | di‡ Hispaniarum Regis missus fuerat: ad Magnificum d'nm Ra- | phaelem Sanxis: eiusdem serenissimi Regis Tesaurariu' missa: | quam nobilis ac litteratus vir Aliander de Coseo ad Hispano | ideomate in latinum conuertit: tertio kal's Maij. M.cccc.xciij. | Pontificatus Alexandri Sexti Anno Primo."

The second edition§ contains ten leaves, and is illustrated with seven woodcuts, five of which are full-page. On the recto of the first leaf are the arms of Castile and Leon, which are surmounted by the words "Regnu' Hyspanie," and on the verso is the picture of a caravel, with "Oceanica Classis" at the head. On the recto of the second leaf the words "De Insulis inuentis" precede the title, while on the last page appears what has been supposed to represent the arms of Granada, which has led some to assume that it was published in that city. Brunet* states that these arms also appear in the 'Verardus'; but no copy containing them is now known.† The only perfect copy of this pictorial edition is that of the Lenox Library, which also possesses copies of the other three earliest editions, where I have had the privilege of examining them. The one found in the British Museum lacks the last leaf, which has been supplied by a facsimile after the Lenox copy, which was formerly in the library of Richard Heber. At the final sale of his library, in 1836, at Paris, it was bought by Guglielmo Libri for ninety-seven francs, and was purchased at the sale of the latter's effects, in 1849, by Mr. Lenox. The third edition consists of only three leaves, and was printed by Argentus Silber at Rome. It is remarkable for being the only one bearing the date, place, and name of printer. The remaining three of the first four editions are all *sine anno aut loco*. The fourth edition, as likewise the first, was printed probably by Stephen Plannck, of Rome, the former being apparently a reprint of the latter, it containing the same number of leaves, the same number of lines to a page, printed in the same type, on similar paper, and doubtless at the same press. Copies of the third and fourth editions are found at the British Museum, and also in some libraries in the United States. The fifth and sixth editions were published at Paris,‡ unquestionably, by Guyot Marchand. They are in almost all respects similar, and appear to have been copied from the first edition; each has eight pages. One copy of each is known to exist in the United States, and the Bodleian possesses a sixth edition. The titles of the various editions§ differ slightly.

* By this is meant works relating to America after its discovery by Columbus, the 'History of Cambria' (*loc. cit.*) and the Norse sagas not being included.

† No copy in the original Spanish is known to exist.

‡ "Ac Helimbet" follows in the third and fourth editions.

§ Mr. Wilberforce Eames, of the Lenox Library, believes that this edition was published at Basle, it being almost identical with that annexed to the drama of 'Verardus,' published in the last-named town in 1494. The basis of the evidence on which this belief is founded does not, however, appear to be sufficiently strong to upset the generally accepted supposition that it was published at Rome.

* 'Manuel du Libraire.'

† Harrisse, *supra*.

‡ Some authorities hold that there was another Paris edition, published in the same year, agreeing with those above mentioned, and place it between those designated by Harrisse as the fifth and sixth.

§ I have in this article followed the numbering of the various editions adopted by Harrisse ('Bib. Amer.'), but also here indicate the order given by Major, in which he supposes them to have been published: H. first, Maj. third; H. second, Maj. fourth; H. third, Maj. second (considered the first by Vernhagen); H. fourth, Maj. first.

In the first, second, fifth, and sixth the name of King Ferdinand alone appears; in the others that of Queen Isabella is added. In those first mentioned the recipient of the letter is called Raphael Sanxis, while in the third and fourth editions he is called Gabriel. In the former the family name is spelt Sanchis, and in the latter Sanches. The correct appellation appears to have been Don Gabriel Sanchez. In the second edition alone the words "Indie supra Gangem" are lacking from the title. The text in all, with the exception of contractions and variances due to typographical errors, is the same. Following the text in the Italian, and preceding it in the French editions, is the following epigram by Bernardus Carninis, Bishop of Monte Peloso:—

"Ad In- | victissimum Regem Hispaniarum: | Jam nulla Hispanie tellus adde'da triu'phis: | At' parum tantis virib' orbis erat. | Nunc longe Eois regio deprensa sub vndis. | Auctura est titulos Betice magne tuos. | Unde repertori merito referenda Colu'bo | Gratia: sed summo est maior habe'da deo: | Qui vince'da parat noua tibi' sibi': | Te' simul fortem prestat & esse pium."*

It was stated by Harrisse† that the only copy of the letter to Luis Santangel is in the Ambrosian Library at Milan; but in 1889 Maissonneuve, of Paris, caused a sensation to run through the entire bibliographic world by offering for sale, for 65,000 francs, a copy of what was unquestionably the first edition of this letter, published at Barcelona in April, 1493. This price was too high to tempt purchasers; or perhaps the genuineness of the work was doubted. Later it passed into the hands of Bernard Quaritch, of London, who held it at 1,750*l*. It was acquired by the Lenox Library (where I have had the privilege of examining it) in 1891. This letter is contained on two folio leaves, the printing covering only a third of the verso of the second leaf. On the second page the last line is almost obliterated, as though done purposely, and is repeated, with slight variations, at the top of the next page. There is not any title, colophon, nor printer's impress, nor does the paper bear any water-mark. Four leaves of contemporaneous paper, two before and two after the letter, are stitched with it, and serve as fly-leaves, although all four are written upon. Of these, pages 1 to 3 relate to Spanish State affairs, while the third and fourth appended leaves contain an appeal to the Archduke Philip, sitting at Bruges (May, 1497), for relief from excessive taxation imposed upon the Low Countries. The Ambrosian copy, long supposed to be the only one in existence, is a small quarto volume, published in Italian, which has been rendered familiar to many bibliophiles by two famous forgeries. In 1866 a typographical facsimile of the letter was made, and from this the forgeries appear to have been copied. Nevertheless, the work was clumsily done, and each contains variations from the original. The second of these, which appeared in 1891, was made from types partly improved from and partly identical with those from which the first forgery was printed. In the second several corrections were made, but many blunders were also added. The first of the forgeries may be recognized by "Amor manouilloso" on p. 4, l. 27, and the second by the substitution of "leguas" for *bancos* in l. 30 of the same page.* The most noted of these forgeries was that owned by Brayton Ives, of New York, which was sold to Dodd, Mead & Co., of the same city, in 1891. This firm discovered that the copy of the letter which they had purchased was not the purported original, and it was returned to Mr. Ives. Upon the information being made public, one or two persons who held like copies destroyed, in anger and disgust, what they had fondly supposed to be a valuable bibliographical example of the early Italian press. Others refused to credit the information. But to the Ives copy a mystery is attached; no one can say what has become of it.† The letter itself opens thus:—

"Senor porque se aureis plazer de la grand vitoria que nuestro Señor me ha dado en mi viaje, vos escrivo esta por la'l sabreys como en ueinte dias pase á las idias cô la armada q' los illustrissimos Rey e Reyna ños señores me dieron do'de yo salle muy muchas Islas pobladas co' gente sin numero: y dellas todas he tomado possesion por sus altezas con pregon y va'dera rreal estendida y non me sue cotradicho."

It then goes on to recount the discovery of San Salvador, which, the writer said, "I named in remembrance of that Almighty Power which had so miraculously bestowed" it and the other islands of the West Indies group. The topography as well as the flora and fauna of the regions visited are then described, and the characteristics of the natives dwelt upon at some length. "I was obliged," said Columbus, "to prevent such worthless things as pieces of broken basins, bits of glass, and shoe-latchets being given them, although when they obtained them they esteemed them as though they had been the greatest of treasures." A remarkable expression of honesty, which principle, it is much to be feared, was not strictly enforced, and which was entirely absent, even in theory, among the later explorers. The people, he continues, appear to have "neither religion nor idolatry," except that they believed that good and evil

* This epigram has been copied from the second edition.

† 'Bibliotheca Americana.'

* "Raccolta di Documenti e Studi pubblicati dalla R. Commissione Colombiana, &c., vol. unico, Roma, 1892 (auspice il Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione)."

† I called upon Mr. Ives, and requested information upon this point, which was politely but positively refused me, "for personal reasons." Whether he destroyed his copy in a moment of childish rage, or whether he still holds it, with a lingering hope that it may, after all, prove to be an original, are simply subjects for conjecture.

came from the skies, and that the ships, with their crews, also came from this place. The men, it is remarked, are contented with one wife, but to the governor or chief twenty are allowed. Toward the close of the letter appears this remarkable statement: "There is another island, I am told, larger than Espanola.....In this there is gold without limit, and of this and the others I have Indians with me to witness." Here, then, was the original El Dorado, the land the sands of whose shores were gold and the mountains of which were of silver. Of the Santangel letter* there were three reprints—one by Maisonneuve (Paris, 1889), the second by Quaritch (London, 1891), and a third among the publications of the Lenox Library (New York, 1893). There was also, I believe, a smaller copy, the particulars of which I cannot now recall.

A. Montgomery Handy.

(To be continued.)

The Etymology of "Vane."—In an article on 'The Origin of Metal Pens,' in 'N. & Q.,' *ante*, p. 192, we are actually invited to believe that *vane* is derived from *phanes*, which we are told is Greek for manifestation, as in Epiphany; we are further told that this etymology is "elegant" and "probable," and that the "gain of this suggestion is good value." Why an etymology should be "elegant" because it suggests a Greek word that does not exist it is hard to see.

Fane is the old spelling of *vane*, being the A.-S. *fana*. It meant at first "a flag" or "a pennon"; and secondly, from its shape and use, the vane of a weathercock. All this is in the 'New English Dictionary,' *s.v.* "Fane." The editors were fortunate in escaping the "elegance" of this new dream.

The spelling *phane* is due to a fad that attended the revival of learning in the sixteenth century. The Old English word *fere*, a companion, was respelt *pheere*, and occurs in Shakespeare; the old word *feese* was respelt *pheese*, and also occurs in the same. Nares even gives *pheezerer* as a spelling of *feuterer*. The Latin *f* was not good enough for the pedants, so they embraced with effusion the elegance of the Greek ph. Walter W. Skeat.

"Cordwainers"=Shoemakers.—It was probably from a feeling that the old designation of "cordwainer" was a less appropriate and intelligible indication of their calling that the shoemakers abandoned it generally in the course of the eighteenth century. Such was the case certainly in Norwich, and I suppose in other places as well. At all events, I find in a poll-book for that city in the year 1761 about one hundred and fifteen voters who are "cordwainers" and but one solitary "shoemaker"; whereas forty years later, *i. e.*, in the 'Directory' for 1800, not a single "cordwainer" remains, but (with the exception of about half a dozen who are content with the more modest title of "shoemakers") they are all "boot and shoe makers." F. N.

P.S.—Some curious names appear in both lists, *e. g.*, "Aaron" and "Ezekiel Delight."

Tasso and the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.'—Having read the 'Gerusalemme Liberata' this summer, not for the first time, I turned to the 'Encyclopædia,' and was surprised to find an article by the late Mr. Symonds, in which the writer describes Godfrey as a mixture of pious Æneas and Tridentine Catholicism; names Ruggiero as one of the chief characters; and states that the action of the epic turns on Armida. He regards the romantic episodes as superior in interest to the main theme. Now is not this careless criticism? Godfrey has not a mark of Trent about him. Ruggiero does not exist. The action turns on Rinaldo. (See particularly xiv. 13:—

— tu sei capo, ei mano
Di questo campo; e sostener sua vece
Altri non puote, e farlo a te non lece.)

In my judgment the episodes are subordinated to the main theme, which advances in interest to the end of canto xviii., when the city is taken. The more I read this poem the more its grandeur impresses me. I would call attention to i. 75, the resistless march of the crusading host; iii. 3, the first sight of Jerusalem; ix. 22, the swiftness and fury of Soliman; xiii. 6, the incantation of Ismeno; xvii. 11, the majesty of the King of Egypt. Possibly the noblest gesture in modern poetry is that of Argante, ii. 89–91, in defying Godfrey.

Richard H. Thornton.

Portland, Oregon.

The Will of King Henry VI. has been lately printed in full from the original, "in commemoration of the 450th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of King's College Chapel, being the 25th of July, 1896." It contains much attractive matter in many ways, and is a very interesting specimen of fifteenth century English. There is to be, for instance, "a reredos beryng the Rodeloft departyng the quere and the body of the chirch, conteynyng in lengthe .xl. fete, and in brede .xiiij. fete; the walles of the same chirche to be in height .iiij^{xx}x. fete, embatelled vauted and chare rofed sufficiently boteraced and euery boterace fined with finialx." Here we have a good example of the verb *to depart*=to separate, which survives in our Form of Solemnization of Matrimony as *do part*, in the troth given by M. to N. and by N. to M. What it may be to be "chare rofed" I cannot feel sure. I suppose the king's wish would be accomplished when the roof-tree was put above the vaulting; but I should like to know whether *chare*

* Barcelona copy.

be cognate or not with the *char* or *car* in *charpentier* and *carpenter*. The 'New English Dictionary' has *chare* or *char*, to turn aside or away, and it gives "She hadde no clopes to chare hir fro þe rayne" as an instance of its use in inverted construction. That the chapel was to be "chare rofed" as well as vaulted may merely mean that it was to have a protective cover of some kind over the expanse of stone.

Alder is employed in an unusual way before an adjective in the positive degree in the phrase, "Christ our alder iuste and streit Juge." There is also "Crist oure alder Sauiour and terrible iuge."

At Eton a certain space between the wall of the "Chirch" and the cloister was arranged for "to sette in certain trees and floures, behoueful and conuenient for the seruice of the seide chirch."

ST. SWITHIN.

'A JOURNAL OF MEDITATIONS.'—I have before me a copy of a book, very popular in days gone by among English Catholics, entitled:—

"A Journal of Meditations for Every Day in the Year. Gathered out of divers Authors. Written first in Latin by N. B., and newly translated into English by E. M. The third edition. Permissu Superiorum. London, printed by Henry Hills, Printer to the King's most Excellent Majesty, for his Household and Chappell; for him and Matthew Turner, at the Lamb in High-Holborn." 1687, 8vo.

There is a copy of this edition in the British Museum. It is catalogued under the initials N. B., but the name of the author is not given, though the cataloguer conjectures that the translator was Edward Meredith. This is an ingenious guess, as there was a Jesuit of that name living at the time, but it is not correct. The real translator was Edward Mico, *alias* Baines, and Harvey, a Jesuit, who died in Newgate on 3 Dec., 1678, and the first edition of the book appeared at London in 1669, 8vo.

The author, N. B., was no other than the celebrated Jesuit Father Nathanael Bacon, who on entering the Society assumed the name of Southwell, by which he was afterwards generally known. His great Latin work on the 'Lives of the Writers of the Society of Jesus,' published at Rome in 1676, is frequently consulted by students of biography. He died at the Gesù, in Rome, on 2 Dec., 1676, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. A memorandum made at Rome states that the "originale autographum ephemeridis Meditationum P. Sotovelli conservatur in cubiculo Procuratoris Montis Portii hoc anno 1694."

THOMPSON COOPER, F.S.A.

TROUBLE COLOUR AND MANDEVILLE. — At p. 121 of Ashton's 'Maundeville' (Pickering & Chatto, 1887) we read that in the third part of India, where it is right cold, "the water becommeth Cristal & upon that groweth the good diamondes y^t is like a trouble colour." In a note Mr. Ashton explains this to mean prismatic, and the phrase seems to fit well to the meaning; but is the explanation accepted?

PROF. SKEAT's note (*ante*, p. 45) as to 'Trouble used Intransitively' has two references to Mandeville's 'Travels'; but he omits to state from what edition he quotes.

I presume there is no doubt now that Mandeville is a ghost-author, and the 'Travels' a fictitious compilation, in spite of the flourish of trumpets over Mr. J. Cameron Grant's recent new edition. JAMES HOOPER.

FEMALE NAMES: AVIS AND JOYCE. — The other day I met with the name Avis as that of a female, which is, I suppose, translated into Latin, *Avicia*, and used in the grace once said at St. John's College, Oxford, founded by Sir Thomas White in 1555, "Avicia et Joanna uxoribus ejus." In a poem called 'Hawkswell Place' (*Household Words*, vol. xiv. 130) the following mention of the name occurs:—

With dreamy eye, but heart and ear awake,
Dame Avice sits beside the glowing brands.

I have known the name Joyce used in the Midland Counties. In the grace at Brasenose College it is translated into Latin *Jocosa*. Joyce Frankland, of London, in 1588 founded a fellowship at that college. JOHN PICKFORD, M.A.

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT.—Having to look up this name with reference to a note on that delightful book of Oliver Wendell Holmes's, 'A Mortal Antipathy,' I find in Cates's 'Dictionary of General Biography' that he was born on 3 November, 1794; in Allibone's 'Dictionary of English Literature and British and American Authors,' on 3 November, 1797; and in 'Men and Women of the Time,' fourteenth edition, 1895 ('Necrology,' p. 946), on 3 November, 1784. Brigham Young has been described as a very much married man, so Bryant may surely be described as a very much born man. Which date is correct? J. B. FLEMING.

Kelvinside, Glasgow.

ROBERT CALLIS, SERJEANT-AT-LAW.—As he is noticed in 'Dict. Nat. Biog.' (viii. 260) and in 'N. & Q.,' 3rd S. v. 134, 204; 4th S. i. 295, 378; iii. 172, it seems worth while to mention that he must have died in his native Lincolnshire in the beginning of 1642, his will being proved in May of that year and registered in the P.C.C. 56, Cambell. GORDON GOODWIN.

WORD-MAKING.—I believe I have discovered a new word of most spurious coinage, and I hasten to nail it to the counter of 'N. & Q.' In Henry Kistemaecker's (*fils*) 'Lit de Cabot,' I find "Elle redisait mot à mot le *sardoutisme* ronflant de la brochure." This delightful compound is, I think, a novelty. W. H. QUARRELL.

Queries.

We must request correspondents desiring information on family matters of only private interest to affix their names and addresses to their queries, in order that the answers may be addressed to them direct.

SUBDIVISIONS OF THE TROY GRAIN.—In a catena of dictionaries and works of reference, extending (to my knowledge) from Blount's 'Glossographia,' 1656, to Kelly's 'Universal Cambist' (second edition), 1821, there is given a series of minute subdivisions of troy weight. According to this, the grain is divided into 20 mites, the mite into 24 droits, the droit into 20 perrits, the perrit into 24 blanks; the blank being thus the $\frac{1}{23040}$ of a grain, or as nearly nothing as the majority of us can conceive. This infinitesimal subdivison of weights is gravely said to be used by "moneyers." I should like to know if it was ever really used, and how. It is plain that it could not be practically used, there being no possible way of practically appreciating the $\frac{1}{23040}$ part of a grain, nor even, I should think, of distinguishing it from the $\frac{1}{100}$ of a grain. It has occurred to me, however, that, before decimal fractions were generally used, some such system may have been used for noting (on paper) exact weights allowed by arithmetical calculation. We have, for example, no scruple in writing that the Old Scotch term "drop" was equal to 37·588 troy grains, although it is manifest that the fraction could not be experimentally ascertained by weighing a "drop," and that the difference between ·588 and ·589 is inappreciable. Instead of thus expressing the fraction by decimals as five tenths, eight hundredths, and eight thousands of a grain, we might say 37 grains, 11 mites, 18 droits, 4 perrits, 19½ blanks. This, however, is only my guess as to how these denominations of weight might be used—if they were used at all. As matters of fact, I should like to see some recorded instance of their use, also where they originated. Blount gives no information as to the source whence he took them. The historical etymology of *perrit* and *droit* seems also uncertain. Any help thereon would be acceptable. J. A. H. MURRAY.

Oxford.

SURNAMES ENDING IN "-ING."—Could any of your readers kindly inform me what is the philological meaning of the terminal syllable "-ing" in such names as Baring, Canning, Dowling, Fielding, Golding, Halling, Larking, Spalding, &c., and when they were first used as family or surnames?

JACKSON GOLDING.

27, Harcourt Street, Dublin.

FLAG OF ENGLISH REGIMENT.—Buenos Ayres has been lately celebrating the anniversary of the English invasion (they call it there "Reconquista, 1806–8"), and I have been reading in the Argentine papers that the 71st English Regiment has no flag (*bandera*), because it lost it in that little war—war advised, I understand, by the great minister William Pitt. Is the story of the loss correct? L. B. TAMINI.

"FORESTER."—What is the signification of *forester* applied to a horse, as in the following examples?—

"The Queen doth so far surpass her Subjects in Shape and Beauty, as the finest Horse that ever ran on Banstead Downs, doth the most common *Forrester*."—G. Warder, 'True Amazons' (1713), p. 58.

> Man's coltish disposition asks the thong;
> And without discipline the favourite child,
> Like a neglected *forester*, runs wild.
> Cowper, 'Progress of Error,' 360–2.

"The underwood was low, and Vivian took his horse, an old *forester*, across it with ease."—Disraeli, 'Vivian Grey,' bk. vi. ch. ii.

HENRY BRADLEY.

Clarendon Press, Oxford.

DIVINING ROD.—As I am writing a lengthy scientific memoir on the divining rod, I should be very grateful if any of your readers would furnish me with cases of failure in the predictions of the divining rod. One such instance—anonymously given, and therefore of not much value—is quoted by A. C. W. in 'N. & Q.,' 8th S. ix. 336. So far the evidence I am collecting is overwhelmingly in favour of the divining rod, the Richmond case (which I know well) notwithstanding. Cases of evidential value in favour of the rod—such, for example, as borings prior to and then after the visit of the diviner—I should be very grateful for also. W. F. BARRETT.

6, De Vesci Terrace, Kingstown, co. Dublin.

[See 1st S. viii. 293, 350, 400, 479, 623; ix. 386; x. 18, 155, 449, 467; xi. 19, 33; xii. 226; 2nd S. i. 243; 4th S. xii. 412; 5th S. i. 16; ii. 511; v. 507; vi. 19, 33, 106, 150, 210, 237; x. 295, 316, 355; xi. 167; 6th S. iii. 236; vi. 325; 7th S. viii. 186, 256; ix. 214, 243, 338; 8th S. iii. 107; ix. 266, 335, 415.]

WILLIAM SMITH, D. 1696.—Barton Booth wrote a Latin epitaph to be placed under the portrait of this interesting and distinguished actor, who joined the Duke's Company at Lincoln's Inn Fields about 1662 or 1663. The epigram, speaking of Smith, describes him as "Bettertono coætaneus et Amicus; nec non propedum æqualis." It is given in Betterton's (Gildon's) 'History of the Stage,' Chetwood's 'History of the Stage,' and Theophilus Cibber's 'Life of Barton Booth.' I cannot, however, trace the portrait of Smith. Is it still in existence; and where? URBAN.

DOILE, OF GLIPERG.—A MS. of the 'Georgics' closes with the following: "Iohannes Doile de gliperg plebanus mhuna Cenobita in monte Sti Iohis sub dnis Abbatibus Damnonie. Wilhelmo et volperto militaris sepsi hc prid kal

marcias Anno d. primo sup. millesimm." Where was Gliperg? Damnonia is a curious blunder if Devonshire is intended. I shall be glad of hints.

JOHN YOUNG, M.D.

University of Glasgow.

"BRIDGE"=LANDING PLACE.—In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1852 are some communications with reference to "bridge" being used in London and other places on the Thames for landing places on the river. Does modern knowledge substantiate this? In this parish is a farm—Danebridge, according to old spelling, although now written Dambridge—and the small arched bridge across the shallow stream could hardly have given the name to the place. There is a raised causeway going east towards Staple from the place. Would it, therefore, take its name from the Danes having sailed up the lesser Stour and landed there?

ARTHUR HUSSEY.

Wingham, Kent.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE BICYCLE.—In the church of Stoke Pogis, in Buckinghamshire, there is a small stained-glass window bearing date 1642. One of the figures on the glass is a youth clad in a Roman-looking garb and blowing a long trumpet. He is mounted on what resembles very closely a bicycle of the old "boneshaker" type. Is anything known regarding the window; and were bicycles used in the seventeenth century? I cannot refrain from adding how grieved I am to see that the venerable square tower of the church, the "ivy-mantled tower" of Gray's immortal 'Elegy,' has been spoiled by the incongruous addition of a spire made of light-coloured wood. The effect of the addition is far from pleasing, and sadly mars the hoary aspect of the rest of the building.

SYDNEY KEITH.

Fairlight, Whitton, Middlesex.

EARLY NEWSPAPERS.—Can any one say where a complete set of the *Index Intelligencer* can be seen—or at any rate the issues from 1675 to 1705—or any other newspapers of this period (I have access to the *London Gazette*), especially such as would be likely to contain advertisements of new books and library sales? Was the *Mercurius Clericus* much used as an advertising medium? Was it in existence between the above dates? If so, where may a set be seen? B. P. S.

41, Park Square, Leeds.

PICTURE.—Have any readers of 'N. & Q.' ever seen a picture of the old town's steeple of Falkirk, built in 1697? If so, perhaps they will say where it may be seen. JAMES LOVE.

Woodland Hill, Falkirk.

SOURCE OF STORY.—I have heard a story concerning five men, of different nationalities, or creeds, meeting at a meal, when none of them was able to eat, because of some religious scruple concerning the food prepared. One had to see it killed, another had to kill it himself, and the like. I cannot remember to which nationalities these men belonged, or what were their precise superstitions concerning the food before them, which forbade their partaking of it. Can any one enlighten me? HINDOO.

THE NICHOLSON CHARITY.—Can any correspondent of 'N. & Q.' give information respecting this charity, founded by John Nicholson, who lived about 1717?—either as to the history of the founder, the names of the trustees of the charity, the sum originally bequeathed, its present value, or how often it is claimed. M. N.

Cheltenham.

BRADFIELD = PIGOTT.—Can any reader of 'N. & Q.' give me information relating to the family of a Miss Bradfield, or Brasselt, who was married to Alex. Pigott (son of Thomas Pigott, of Dysart, Queen's County, and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Weldon, of Rahinderry, M.P. for Athy in 1661)? They had issue (1) Robert, (2) John, (3) Starkey or Stukey, and (4) Elizabeth. It is possible that this Alexander Pigott may have married both a Bradfield and a Brassett, or she may have been a widow. There was a family of Bradfield, of Norfolk, who bore Ar., a cross chequy or and az., four mullets of the second. Were they connexions; or is there any pedigree of them which would show if there was any marriage between them and the Pigotts?

WM. JACKSON PIGOTT.

Dundrum, co. Down.

WINDOW IN LLANDEGLA CHURCH.—There is a window in the church at Llandegla, in Flintshire, concerning which I should like some information. It has three lights. In the central one is the figure of Christ, apparently in Gethsemane. Two angels are descending from heaven, bearing to him respectively a crown of thorns and a cup. Of the other lights, the one to the spectator's right has a group of three angels, one of them forging nails, one binding up a bundle of rods, one holding a lantern on a spear; that on the left has a similar group, one of the angels holding a spear, the other two rearing a cross. Whose design is this? Is it copied from some picture? The window is said to have come from St. Asaph's Cathedral.

C. C. B.

"EPHTHIANURA."—Can any of your readers help me to the etymology of the word *ephthianura*? It is an Australian bird-name, and was given by Gould. See *Proceedings* of Zoological Society, 1837, p. 148. EDWARD E. MORRIS.

Melbourne.

PILGRIMS' ROUTE TO ST. DAVID'S.—In the olden days two pilgrimages to St. David's were accounted equivalent to one to Rome. I should

like to know how the roads ran in Pembrokeshire along which the pilgrims travelled. Would the old Roman road from Carmarthen be the one used, or that taken by Giraldus Cambrensis in his crusade-preaching of 1188? J. Rogers Rees.

Winterbourne, Penarth.

Rhyming Lines in the Latin Classic Poets.—In the works of Virgil and of Horace I have found four rhymed couplets. They are as follows:

Ipse hostis Teucros insigni laude ferebat,
Seque ortum antiquâ Teucrorum ab stirpe volebat.
Virg. 'Æn.' i. 625.

Ipsum inter pecudes vastâ se mole moventem
Pastorem Polyphemum et littora nota petentem.
Virg. 'Æn.' iii. 656.

Quos rami fructus, quos ipsa volentia rura
Sponte tulere suâ carpsit: nec ferrea jura.
Virg. 'Georg.' ii. 501.

Ne te compilent fugientes; hoc juvat? horum
Semper ego optârim pauperrimus esse bonorum.
Hor. '1 Sat.' i. 79.

May I ask, through the columns of 'N. & Q.,' whether these rhymes are accidental or intentional? Possibly your correspondents may know of other examples. R. Walford.

Ventnor.

[A well-known writer and scholar is of opinion that assonance is continually and intentionally employed by Horace.]

"Scope."—The heroine of a Northumbrian ballad, 'Fair Mabel of Wallington,' feels sure that she shall share the fate of several of her sisters, and die at the birth of her first child, which is now impending. She hastily sends a messenger to fetch her mother, who finds everybody at Sir Fenwick's in a state of great perturbation. Of the patient it is said—

Her daughter had a scope into her chest and into her chin
All to keep her life till her dear mother came,

or "come," for I cannot quite decipher the writing in which I copied the lines. What is a "scope"?

St. Swithin.

Robert Burton's Portrait.—The familiar likeness of the author of the 'Anatomy of Melancholy,' as it appears once more in the recent edition by Mr. Shilleto, seems to have been taken from the portrait in the hall of Brasenose College. The name of the painter is not given, nor is this easy to ascertain upon a cursory inspection of the original portrait. But a closer examination can make out an inscription, in which the painter's name appears to be most probably "Gil. Hall"; or the letters may possibly imply some other name, even Gilchrist. But it is worn, so as not to be ascertained exactly. Can any contributor to 'N. & Q.' point to any other work by or any notice of Gilbert Hall at this time, or offer any suggestion? Ed. Marshall.

Replies.

PORTRAIT OF LADY NELSON.

(8th S. ix. 446, 517; x. 179.)

The difficulty of tracing the later years of Lady Nelson (widow of the admiral) is no doubt due to her having resided in the quarter where it would be least likely to make search for her, for it was in Paris that Lady Nelson spent the handsome English pension which the true aim of a Frenchman's bullet had obtained for her. She lived on the Quai Voltaire, and one day, at the end of July, 1830, a mob of French revolutionists, during that time of terror, broke into her house, but retired on finding the family in distress, for Josiah Nesbit, Lady Nelson's son, lay dead therein.

Her ladyship, under these circumstances, at once returned to England, and lived at the "Lea House Hotel," Brighton, with her son's widow and children, who had accompanied her from France. Her death took place in London, 6 May, 1831.

The portrait of Lady Nelson which has recently been referred to in your pages is that of Hilare, widow of George Ulric Barlow, Esq., who became the second wife of Lord Nelson's brother William, who enjoyed the honours and estates bestowed by this country as acknowledgment of the importance of the great naval victories while Lord Nelson was in command of the fleet. This Countess Nelson was only twenty-eight years of age when she married William, Earl Nelson, whose age exceeded threescore years and ten. Her personal income was merely a hundred and fifty pounds a year when she accepted the earl; but on her union with him (less than twelve months after the death of his first countess, his wife of forty-two years) he settled upon her his house in Portman Square and four thousand pounds per annum. After the death of William, Earl Nelson, his widow married George Thomas Knight, Esq.

The widow of Admiral Nelson at one time lived in Harley Street, near Sir William Beechey, R.A.; but he does not seem to have painted her portrait. In fact, he was not very partial to her ladyship, although so intimate with Lord Nelson that his lordship called to say "Good-bye" to him before he sailed for Trafalgar, and gave his godson, Nelson Beechey, a parting present. "What shall I give my godson?" said Nelson. "Give him the hat you wore at the battle of the Nile," said Sir William Beechey. "Very well; it shall be so," were Nelson's words. The hat was sent, and is now in possession of the godson's descendant. The relic is riddled with shot. Hilda Gamlin.

Camden Lawn, Birkenhead.

Mr. Hems should not have written the first marriage name of Lady Nelson's "Nesbit" when the epitaph quoted by him gives it "Nisbet." His

"lady of rank" with "Nesbitt" is, of course, doubly incorrect, as ladies of rank are apt to be. Moreover, either MR. HEMS or the tablet is wrong in regard to the family motto, which is not "His," but "Vis, fortibus arma," with allusion to the crest, a boar's head with the tusks, his natural weapon. I speak with knowledge, as my mother's name was Nisbet, and Josiah was her first cousin.

C. B. MOUNT.

DOPE: BROCKHEAD: FOULMART (8th S. x. 156).—*Dope*, *doup*, or *dowp* is a common word in the North Riding of Yorkshire for the carrion crow. *Brockhead* is a badger. This word may be compared with the Scotch *brocked*, variegated, having a mixture of black and white. Cf. Gael. *brocach*, speckled. *Foulmart* is a polecat, from M.E. *ful*, foul, and O.F. *marte*, *martre*, a marten. I have usually heard the word pronounced *foomert* in Yorkshire and Westmorland.

F. C. BIRKBECK TERRY.

Brockhead undoubtedly means the head of a brock or badger. *Dope* seems to be the same as our Scottish *doup—clunes, pars posterior*, and may either signify that the hind quarters or tail were received in evidence of the slaughter of some animal, or have been a local term for a mole, or some beast conspicuously deficient in the matter of tail. *Foulmart* is, of course, the foumart or polecat: in Gaelic, *feocolach*, the stinking one.

HERBERT MAXWELL.

Foulmart—or, as I have usually heard it pronounced, *foumard*—is a name for the polecat, though Ascham, in 'Toxophilus,' distinguishes between them—"poulcattes, foxes, and foumerdes." For the origin of the name, and a great deal of interesting information concerning the animal, see two articles by Mr. Benjamin Scott in the *English Illustrated Magazine*, vols. i. and iv., entitled 'The Weasel and his Family.' C. C. B.

Can a *dope* be a mole, French *taupe*? As to *brockhead*, I should have thought it meant the head of a brock, *i. e.*, as MR. COLEMAN says, a badger. In these cases heads were often brought to show as evidence; but not having the exact phrase I cannot be sure. Neither am I sure of *foulmart*.

C. F. S. WARREN, M.A.

Longford, Coventry.

Dope is certainly a mole, Fr. *taupe*, O.F. *taulpe*, Lat. *talpa*. *Brockhead* is a badger's head. The shilling was always paid on production of the heads of the larger animals. *Foulmart*, often written *foumart*, is a polecate, a foul-marten, from its offensive smell. Weasel, in old dictionaries, was a generic term applying to all the tribe. The only true weasel is the little *Mustela vulgaris*, which is less than half the size of a stoat, *Mustela erminea*, which, again, is very much smaller than the foumart or fitchet, *Mustela putorius*. No real countryman would confound these "varmint" with each other, any more than he would with the common ferret, *Mustela furo*.

F. T. ELWORTHY.

[Other replies are acknowledged.]

KAMA SHASTA SOCIETY OF BOMBAY (8th S. x. 216).—'The Perfumed Garden' was first translated from Arabic into French, about thirty years ago, by an officer in the army of Algeria. A much better version was published in English by the Kama Shastra Society, in or about 1880, in a very private manner. Another of their publications was the 'Kama Sutra,' a somewhat similar work, translated from one of the Indian languages. A copy of either is probably worth 5*l*. They are both thin small octavoes.

JOHN HOBSON MATTHEWS.

Cardiff.

"LAZE AND FLANE" (8th S. x. 134, 198).—*Laze* as an intransitive verb dates from the era of Elizabeth. As well as the substantive *laze*, it is used by Robert Greene. Other writers that have it are James Mabbe, Dr. Thomas Fuller, Bishop Gauden, and Southey. And to whom is it unfamiliar? Yet Dr. Funk's 'Dictionary' characteristically marks it as "rare." Dr. Johnson, who does not recognize it, strangely gives Sir Roger L'Estrange's and Dr. South's *lazing* as an adjective, "from lazy."

F. H.

Marlesford.

MARTIN'S ABBEY (8th S. x. 196).—It appears from Manning and Bray's 'Surrey' that Merton Abbey, on the road to Epsom, was vulgarly called Martin's Abbey.

T. CRAIB.

Should we not read Merton Priory? In Lysons's 'Environs' (second edition, vol. i. pt. i. p. 250) it is said that this priory "had been successively in the families of Crispe, Pepys, Smith, St. John, and Hubbald" (see Manning's 'Surrey,' vol. i. p. 255). In 1711 it became the property of Sir William Phippard, Knt. In Dugdale's 'Monasticon' reference is made to Manning for the late history of the priory.

W. SPARROW SIMPSON.

THACKERYANA (8th S. x. 73, 178).—The following may prove interesting, because of having appeared in an American paper of high literary standing two or three weeks before the appearance of the recent controversy in the columns of 'N. & Q.':—

"The death knell of still another literary myth has been sounded by the denial of the story of John P. Kennedy's contribution to 'The Virginians.' The evidence in Thackeray's favor is indisputable, for no well-informed American would ever speak of maple sugar making in autumn, as the author of that particular chapter in 'The Virginians' has done."

It is but right to point out that Thackeray sought the friendship of Kennedy because of the latter's then high position in the field of American letters,

acquired through his novels, notably 'Horse-Shoe Robinson,' which gave him a popularity perhaps next to Cooper's. Kennedy had a forcible personality, possessed much natural kindliness, and wielded large power in the social life of the South, occupying there a position not unlike that in the North held by George Ticknor, of Spanish literature fame, both being regarded by the country at large as men of extreme polish and unquestionable ability. The maple sugar incident as above might help to fix the supposed Kennedy-Thackeray chapter, which so far eludes me. J. G.

Position of Communion Table (8th S. ix. 308, 376; x. 226).—The action of the bishop and his chancellor with regard to a rector who "moved the altar into the middle of the church" seems to require explanation. Your correspondent says that they "proved to the rector that he had made a mistake." What mistake? The Prayer Book orders that at the communion time the table "shall stand in the body of the church, or in the chancel, where morning and evening prayer be appointed to be said"; and the Ornaments Rubric appoints that "the morning and evening prayer shall be used in the accustomed place." If the censured priest was accustomed to say those offices in the body of the church, he would be a law-breaker if he celebrated elsewhere. But perhaps the bishop objected to the table remaining there. But the nave might have been roomy and the congregation small; and neither the rubrics nor Canon 82 give any direction for placing elsewhere what might have been a heavy table, inconvenient for shifting about; and Queen Elizabeth's injunction that "after communion done" it should be placed against the east wall of the chancel is of doubtful authority. C. W. W.

Cotton Family (8th S. x. 29).—Clement Cotton was not the son of Sir Robert Cotton, Bart., the antiquary and founder of the Cotton Library. The said Sir Robert, being descended from the Bruce family, assumed the name in distinction to those of the name of Cotton of other families. The book is superseded by Cruden's 'Concordance.' It is worth a few shillings; the loss of the title-page reduces its value. John Radcliffe.

Flags (8th S. ix. 328, 394, 472, 499; x. 16, 83).—Mr. Pickford need not go so far back as the Declaration of American Independence to account for the stars and stripes flying from many of our large hotels and tradesmen's houses most days of the week. It simply means a compliment to the Americans who pour into Europe, or, "You come here; we like your custom." I should think there must be twenty Americans to one "Englisher" in foreign countries; at all events, that has been about the proportion I have met in Europe. Some years ago the only English shop in Venice was American. The English used to be the most numerous as travellers; but in numbers, at all events, they must now give way to Americans. A few weeks ago I was at Southampton, and I was surprised to find the inhabitants quite demoralized by the American Line liners starting from there. They actually took a pride in the American boat (as the local papers asserted) beating the English record by a few minutes, because it started from Southampton, and forthwith suggested that the mails should be taken from English ships to be given to the American. Ralph Thomas.

Earliest Circulating Library (8th S. ix. 447; x. 99, 145).—As this question has often appeared in 'N. & Q.,' the following article from the *City Press* of 6 Aug. will furnish information which may be acceptable to your readers:—

"The first circulating library established in Great Britain was that of Allan Ramsay, which was opened at Edinburgh in 1725. The first institution of the kind in London was at 132, Strand, where one Batho, a bookseller, imitating Ramsay's successful enterprise, commenced lending out books in 1740. The movement spread extensively, and it is said that within about seventy years every village and town throughout the country possessed a library of this kind. It may not be uninteresting to give a list of the principal circulating libraries which existed in the City at the beginning of the present century. They were as follows: The City Foreign and English Library, Coleman Street (established 1810); Wilson's, Gracechurch Street; Newman's, Leadenhall Street; Herbert's, 88, Cheapside; Horne's, Queen Street; Herbert & Mann's, Fleet Street; Carpenter's, 314, High Holborn; Booth's, Duke Street, Portland Place; Colburn's, Conduit Street; Chapple's, Pall Mall; Crew's, Grenville Street, Brunswick Square; Eber's, Old Bond Street; Earl's, Albemarle Street; Hookham's, Old Bond Street; Hey's, Somers Street, Portman Square; Hodgson's, Wimpole Street; Hubert's, Greek Street, Soho; Harwood's, Great Russell Street; Holtt's, Upper Berkeley Street; Rice's, Berkeley Square; Cawthorne's, Cockspur Street."

Everard Home Coleman.

71, Brecknock Road.

Mr. Walford writes, in his 'Old and New London,' vol. iii. p. 77, that "at No. 132, the Strand, an enterprising citizen, named Wright, established in 1740 the first of those circulating libraries which for a century and a half have afforded so large a market for our novelists"; and he quotes Mr. John Timbs for the statement that Mr. Wright was "so far successful" in his speculation that he shortly had four rivals in Holborn, Fleet Street, and the Strand. He also remarks it as "not a little singular" that the shop of Mr. Wright stood very close to what is now the great literary mart of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son.

Mus Urbanus.

Tomb of Mahmood of Ghuznee (8th S. x. 175).—W. C. B. asks questions about the tomb of Mahmood of Ghuznee and the gates of Somnauth. As regards the latter, a query was fully answered at 7th S. vii. 117 by myself and another correspondent. To this I will only add that history

tells us that early in the eleventh century Mahmood of Ghuznee, the then sovereign ruler of Afghanistan, invaded Western India with an enormous army, and marched as far as the coast of Gujerat, north of the Gulf of Cambay, where he ravaged the ancient town of Somnauth, with its famous Hindoo temple, of great antiquity and local sanctity, and carried off the sandal-wood gates of the temple to his mountain fortress of Ghuznee, where he died in 1028. When Lord Ellenborough, the Governor-General of India, undertook in 1842 the task of retrieving the disasters that had befallen General Elphinstone's army at Cabool and in the passes between Cabool and Jelalabad, it occurred to him that, besides the humiliation that would accrue to the Afghan nation by despoiling the tomb of their illustrious warrior of eight centuries ago, the restoration of the gates of Somnauth to the famous Hindoo temple on the coast of Gujerat would have a good effect on the minds of the millions of Hindoo subjects of the Queen throughout India; and he therefore gave instructions for their restoration, as detailed in the orders issued to General Nott. In accordance with these instructions, these gates were, with the greatest difficulty, conveyed from Ghuznee to Cabool in 1842, and thence by General Pollock's army to Peshawur and back to India. It was, however, found impossible to bring them further than Agra, where they were lodged in the arsenal, and were shown to visitors as curiosities until late years. They are mentioned in Mr. Caine, M.P.'s, book on 'India' (Routledge & Sons, 1891) as being still in the fort of Agra six years ago. With regard to Mahmood's club, mentioned in Lord Ellenborough's orders to General Nott, I believe that it could not be found; having probably been already looted as a curiosity; but on this point any survivor of General Nott's army on its march from Candahar to Ghuznee and Cabool in 1842 could give the desired information.

J. B. H.

With respect to the so-called gates of the Temple of Somnauth, see 'N. & Q.,' 4th S. ix. 34; and for a copy of Lord Ellenborough's stupid, bombastic proclamation, see Cassell's 'Hist. of England,' vii. 561. The late chaplain-general to the forces, Gleig, imagined that the gates brought away from Ghuznee by General Nott were the genuine and original gates of Somnauth, and he commits an error when he states they had been removed by Nadir Shah. (See conclusion of 'Sale's Brigade in Afghanistan.') Of "Mahmood's club" I cannot furnish any information.

Francis W. Jackson, M.A.

I well recollect how large a share of the public attention was occupied by the Earl of Ellenborough half a century ago. He appears to have been a very able man, whose weaknesses were fiercely seized hold of by his political opponents. His bombastic proclamation about the gates of Somnauth was quickly turned to ridicule. These gates were supposed to have been taken from their original place, and set up at the tomb at Ghuznee. Lord Ellenborough, in accordance with his policy of conciliating the natives, wished the gates to be restored to their first position. Some said they had never been at Somnauth; others said he was sanctioning idolatry and superstition.

I have no serious history to refer to, but there is a skit on the subject in the fourth volume of *Punch* (1843), p. 76. It is a miserable affair, but the main facts of the case may be gleaned from it; and at p. 96 of the same volume is a full-page cartoon of "The 'Christian' Bayadere [*i. e.*, Ellenborough] worshipping the idol Siva." The early volumes of *Punch* contain many lampoons on Ellenborough; one at vol. ix. p. 236 has a portrait of him.

If these "apocryphal" gates were not actually offered to South Kensington, it was sneeringly suggested they should be deposited there. Inquiries might be made at that place. R. R.

Boston, Lincolnshire.

The gates that were brought from Ghuzni are at Agra. Whether they are the Somnath gates is a matter of opinion. I doubt their having been there. Of the club alluded to I know nothing.

Horace M. Moncton.

A "Bee's Knee" (8th S. x. 92, 199).—I find the phrase "As big as a bee's knee" in a letter from Mrs. Townley Ward to her sister, my grandmother, dated 27 June, 1797: "It cannot be as big as a bee's knee." Aldenham.

"Burly" (8th S. x. 216).—The inspector of the district where the most women burlers have to use the burling-irons on burling-tables confirms the *Yorkshire Factory Times* in stating that though the term "burly cloth" is unusual, it must mean cloth which contains thick bits of yarn, or prickles, or other improper substances. D.

I think Canon Taylor will find what he wants in the 'New English Dictionary,' under the word "Burl." W. C. B.

Burly means full of burls. "*Burl*, a small knot or lump in wool or cloth" ('New English Dictionary'). Walter W. Skeat.

[Other replies to the same effect are acknowledged.]

Mrs. Penobscot (8th S. x. 135).—Perhaps the richly dressed unknown dame was connected in some way with the country now known as the State of Maine, where flourished before the advent of the Pilgrim Fathers some adventurous spirits of English birth coming from the higher walks. For example, Sir Ferdinando Georges. It is hard to imagine an English tongue coining a word like Penobscot, which is of pure Indian derivation, and the name of a famous river quite as familiar

in the mouths of the good people of Maine as the Thames is to their lively English cousins. Still, on the other side, the early British, but more particularly their northern allies, must be credited with having left a stock of place-names which would crack the teeth of the ordinary red man to pronounce properly. MASCONOMO-PASSACONAWAY.

THE FOLK-LORE OF FILATURES (8th S. ix. 324).—I wish I could enlist the sympathies of the general readers of 'N. & Q.' for my folk-lore of filatures. Scattered notices of threads and cords in other than their recognized uses do occur in all classes of literature, but so few and far between that the uninitiated reader is unable to seize their connexion. To me they are treasure trove, and any communication of them would be highly esteemed. I am afraid that I have neither the literary ability nor the practical energy to undertake the work myself; but I am sure that an exhaustive work on the history, natural history, and folk-lore of filatures would prove of the greatest value and interest.

THOMAS J. JEAKES.

4, Bloomsbury Place, Brighton.

NAME OF UNIVERSITY (8th S. ix. 488; x. 53).—The university referred to by the Archbishop is doubtless Athens. Your correspondent G. will find full particulars concerning it in 'University Life in Ancient Athens,' by the Rev. W. W. Capes, Longmans, 1877. F. SANDERS.

Hoylake Vicarage.

TRIPLETS ATTAINING THEIR MAJORITY (8th S. vi. 6, 70).—The medical statement, referred to some time since, that triplets do not live to see their twenty-first birthday anniversary, receives a negative in the "agony column" of the *Standard*, 10 Aug. Here it is:—

"Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Sayer desire to return their very sincere thanks to their numerous friends for the kind congratulations they received on the occasion of the coming of age of their triplet daughters, and trust that this mode of recognition will be generously accepted.—Birley House, Forest Hill."

HARRY HEMS.

Fair Park, Exeter.

DATED BRICKS (8th S. ix. 267, 358).—

"The first matter on which Letters were receiv'd was stone and Bricks, whence Josephus tells us of the Pillars of Stone and Brick, l. 1 Antiq. c. 4. The Babylonians preserv'd their Customs, Laws and Institutes on Bricks; the Phœnicians on Stones, Plin. N. H. l. vii. c. 56. So also the Romans and almost all Nations, whence so many ancient Marbles, Cippi, and Stelæ."—See Hearne's 'Collections,' ed. Doble, vol. ii. p. 209, and note, p. 443.

FRANCIS W. JACKSON, M.A.

Ebberston Vicarage, York.

SCRIMSHAW FAMILY (8th S. x. 51).—Skrimpshiere may well be a variant of this name. A John Skrimpshire served as a captain under the Earl of Essex in the beginning of the great Civil War (see my 'Army Lists of Roundheads and Cavaliers,' second edition, 1874, p. 25). In the same work we find Herald Skrimshaw, an ensign in Col. Cholmlie's regiment (p. 39), and Cornet Skrynsheere, whose Christian name is not given, as one of those "appointed for the Irish Expedition under Philip Lord Wharton" (p. 67). A Charles Skrumshaw was a captain serving under the "Earl of Northumberland, captain-general of this expedition, 1640" (p. 81). EDWARD PEACOCK.

Dunstan House, Kirton-in-Lindsey.

This is probably a variant of the name Scrimshire or Schrymsher, a Staffordshire family. On the field of Blore Heath, in Staffordshire, where the celebrated battle was fought in the Wars of the Roses in 1459, on a square pedestal with a rude cross standing by it, "some half-worn letters say,"—

This ancient monument
was repaired in
1765,
At the charge of the Lord of the Manor,
Charles Boothby Schrymsher.

Blore Heath is locally situated in the parish of Drayton in Hales, and is about two miles from the little town of Market Drayton. For an interesting account of Blore Heath and the battle, see 'Visits to Fields of Battle,' by Richard Brooke, F.S.A., pp. 21–35. There is also a reference to the battle in Michael Drayton's 'Poly-Olbion,' Song 22. Probably some histories of Staffordshire and Shropshire would give a genealogical account of the Scrimshaw family.

JOHN PICKFORD, M.A.

Newbourne Rectory, Woodbridge.

BISHOP EZEKIEL HOPKINS (8th S. x. 176).—For a concise and exact account of Bishop Hopkins and Samuel, his son, see Foster's 'Alumni Oxonienses'; also for the same and his sons Charles and John, 'The Dictionary of English Literature,' by S. A. Allibone. Pratt's edition of 'The Doctrine of the Sacraments,' by Bishop Hopkins, 1841, and 'Selections from the Works of Bishop Hopkins,' edited by the Rev. W. Wilson, 1827, contain a memoir of the author, and may give the information required. JOHN RADCLIFFE.

Why not look into the 'Dictionary of National Biography'? W. C. B.

POMPADOUR (8th S. x. 77, 184).—The following extract from the *Lady's Magazine*, vol. xxxii. p. 603, with reference to the colour Isabelle, may be of interest to MR. HOOPER. It will be seen that this version differs in one detail—the name of the town—from that given by Dr. E. Cobham Brewer in his invaluable 'Phrase and Fable':—

"When the Spaniards, in 1601, laid siege to Ostend, then held by the Dutch, Isabella—the wife of the Archduke Albert, who commanded the besieging army—made a vow that she would not change her chemise till the

town had capitulated. The garrison defended itself during three whole years; and the chemise of the archduchess, as may be supposed, assumed a yellow hue. After the surrender of the place, which was reduced to a heap of ruins, the ladies in the train of that princess, wishing to pay their court to her, introduced in their dress a colour between white and yellow, which they called Isabella. The name has been established by fashion, and has become common, especially on the Continent."

W. A. Henderson.

Dublin.

Oxford in Early Times (8th S. ix. 308; x. 12, 52, 117, 181).—With respect to the indication of the depth of fords, I may mention that on the river Avon, near Pershore, in Worcestershire, there are three adjacent places, named Nafford, Defford, and Besford. The current explanation is that they are the Narrow-ford, the Deep-ford, and the Beast-ford. Oxenhope, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, is pronounced *Oxnup*. W. C. B.

Mrs. Browning's Birthplace (8th S. x. 135, 178, 238).—This subject has already been dealt with in 'N. & Q.,' and it seems advisable to connect the two sets of references. For the previous notes, see 7th S. viii. 41, 152; and 8th S. viii. 346; ix. 37, 271. A. C. W.

Bryan (8th S. x. 152).—The interesting remarks of your correspondent Manhattan, in reference to the coming election of a President of the United States, and the possibility of history repeating itself and giving to the world another king of the name of Bryan; and his statement that the prospect of the victory of Mr. Bryan "naturally fires the Celtic heart, the surname having been claimed for the Green Isle," induces me to say that the population of Ireland is far from being entirely Celtic. Your correspondent will find that in the east and north it is mainly Saxon; in the north-west Celtic; while in the south-west of the island the basis is Iberian, akin to the population of parts of Spain. Many persons, therefore, who imagine themselves Celts are in reality descendants of English colonists. For instance, the Barrys, Bryans, Burkes, Butlers, Frenches, Fitzgeralds, Martins, Moores, Parnells, Plunkets (and not omitting the redoubtable name of Healy), and others, are simply Anglo-Norman. With reference to the patronymic of "Bryan," which the "unadulterated Anglo-American claims as an old English surname," perhaps the following may not be uninteresting to Manhattan, viz.: "Bryan, or Brionne, Normandy, a branch of the Counts of Brionne, and the Earls of Clare and Hertford, descended from Richard I. of Normandy" (*vide* p. 176 of 'The Norman People,' Messrs. H. S. King & Co., London, 1874). And as regards the assertion that the great-grandfather of William Jennings Bryan emigrated from Scotland, and that the O'Briens are in consequence precluded from claiming the candidate for the American Presidency as a kinsman and a Roman Catholic, I beg to quote, for the information of your correspondent, the words—when referring to the effect of rousing race antagonisms, from which we have suffered so terribly in the past—of that very generous-minded Englishman (the author of 'The Origin of Civilization,' 'Prehistoric Times,' and other learned works) Sir John Lubbock, M.P., D.C.L., LL.D., &c., from his letter to the *Times*, entitled 'Mr. Gladstone and the Nationalities of the United Kingdom,' namely:

"With respect to the distribution and commixture of race elements in the British Isles, we may safely assert that not one of them, whether Iberian, Gaelic, Cymric, Saxon, or Scandinavian, is peculiar to, or absent from, or anywhere prominent in any one of the three kingdoms. And if we recognize the undeniable ethnological fact that the English, Irish, and Scotch are all composed of the same elements, and in not very dissimilar proportions, it would do much to mitigate our unfortunate dissensions and add to the strength and welfare of our common country."

And to this truism I add from another source the question:—

> Ah! when shall all men's good
> Be each man's rule, and universal peace
> Lie, like a shaft of light, across the land?

In conclusion, it may be said that to the great writer John Lubbock, Croly's lines can be very aptly applied, viz.:—

> Feared, but alone as freemen fear;
> Loved, but as freemen love alone;
> He waved the sceptre o'er his kind
> By Nature's first great title—mind.

Henry Gerald Hope.

Clapham, S.W.

The name Bryant is one of the commonest in the St. Ives district of West Cornwall; but as its earliest occurrence in public records there appears to be in the year 1546, it is probably an importation, and I suspect the Bryant family came to St. Ives from Ireland late in the fifteenth century, with Quick, Mitchel, and Stephens.

John Hobson Matthews.

Cardiff.

The House of Commons (8th S. x. 176).—The conflagration at the Parliamentary buildings at Westminster in 1834 played most havoc with the House of Commons; but the walls of the House of Lords and the Painted Chamber were found to be entire. Sir Robert Smirke was therefore commissioned to construct an apartment for the deliberations of the Commons in the former and the Peers in the latter. Engravings showing the interiors of these two apartments appear in the *Mirror* of 14 Feb., 1835, and in the letterpress which accompanies them will be found full descriptions of the construction of the two chambers. I cannot quote these here, owing to their length, but

perhaps room may be found for the following interesting paragraph :—

"It should be mentioned that the embellishments throughout the new Houses are of a material probably unsuspected by our readers, it being an improved *papier mâché* (similar to the tea-tray material), the manufacture of which has been carried to high perfection by Mr. F. C. Bickfield, the artist of these ornaments. Thus he has modelled in *papier mâché* the Royal Arms over the Speaker's Chair, and the ventilators in the ceiling, in the House of Commons, and all the mouldings, cornices, foliage, crockets, and pendants on the walls and ceiling of the House of Lords."

JOHN T. PAGE.

5, Capel Terrace, Southend-on-Sea.

After the fire which destroyed the Houses of Parliament on 16 Oct., 1834, the Court of Requests was newly roofed and fitted up for the Commons, and the Painted Chamber for the Lords, in time for the opening of Parliament on 19 Feb., 1835. A plate showing the interior of the Court of Requests "as newly fitted up for the use of the House of Commons" will be found in Brayley and Britton's 'History of the Ancient Palace of Westminster.' The Peers sat in the new House of Lords for the first time on 15 April, 1847. The first official occupation of the new House of Commons seems to have taken place on 3 Feb., 1852. G. F. R. B.

"THE QUIET WOMAN" (8th S. x. 114).—The inn signs "The Quiet Woman," "The Silent Woman," or "The Good Woman," representing a headless woman carrying her head in her hand, are to be found in different parts of England. They are known at Ripponden, Yorkshire, Derby, and Wedford, near Chelmsford. "The Quiet Woman" is also common on the Continent. For other examples of these signs, and the narrative attached to each of them, see the 'History of Signboards,' by Larwood and Hotten, London, 1866.

EVERARD HOME COLEMAN.

This was the sign of the inn kept by Wildeve, in Mr. Hardy's novel 'The Return of the Native.'

C. C. B.

THE OLD ASSEMBLY ROOMS AT KENTISH TOWN (8th S. iii. 84).—The "Assembly House" tavern has just been demolished to allow of the widening of the Midland Railway; but it will be rebuilt. The original tavern dates from the middle of the last century, or perhaps earlier, the building now in course of demolition having been erected about 1850. The marble table mentioned by C. M. P. in his communication referred to above is in the possession of Mr. Walter Crane, of 24, Falkland Road, Kentish Town, a member of a family well known in the neighbourhood. Mrs. Crane, of Barnet, has a painting of the old tavern and gardens as they appeared in the good old days when Kentish Town was a pretty village.

R. B. P.

"SPURRINGS"=THE BANNS (8th S. x. 134).—This expression is very common in the northern counties of England, and is simply equivalent to "askings." *Spir*=to ask, is still, I believe, Northern English. Cf. A.-S. *spyrian*, *spirian*, to track, trace out, investigate, ask, &c. Burns writes :—

I *spier'd* for my cousin fu' couthy and sweet,
Gin she had recover'd her hearin'.

In Palsgrave's 'Lesclarcissement de la Langue Francoyse,' 1530, is: "I spurre, I aske a question, *Je demande une question*. This terme is farre northerne." Numerous quotations might be given for the use of the word. Your correspondent says that—in his neighbourhood, I suppose—"it is the man who is 'spurred' to the final scene of courtship." In north-west Lincolnshire, according to Mr. Peacock's 'Glossary of Manley and Corringham,' a man whose banns have been once asked in church is said to have "one spur on," when twice, "a pair of spurs." These facetious expressions may be intended for a joke, or perhaps the real meaning of the word has ceased to be understood.

F. C. BIRKBECK TERRY.

A common expression in North Lincolnshire; see Peacock's 'Glossary,' where it is rightly connected (by Prof. Skeat) with the verb to *speir* or *spur*, to ask, which is not used here in any other sense but that of "asking" in church. It has nothing to do with the noun *spur*, unless by way of a conscious or unconscious joke, though allied etymologically. See Skeat's 'Dictionary.' J. T. F.

Winterton, Doncaster.

Clearly the old word *speering*, *speiring*, or *spiering* (for I have seen all three spellings), equivalent to asking, and now confined to Scotland and North England. No reader of the Waverley Novels will need to be reminded of the word. C. F. S. WARREN, M.A.

Longford, Coventry.

COCK-FIGHTING (8th S. vii. 288, 338, 473; viii. 38, 96, 138).—The accompanying account, by W. G. Tegetmeier, from the *Magazine of Art*, will prove interesting. It describes a picture called 'Jack Mordaunt's Cock-Fight,' in the collection of my friend Lieut.-Col. Dawkins at Over Norton House, near Chipping Norton, to which allusion has been already made in the pages of 'N. & Q.':—

"The best-known artistic representation of cock-fighting is that of Col. Mordaunt's celebrated match, which took place at Lucknow, in the province of Oude, in the year 1786. This picture was painted by Zoffany (who was present on the occasion), engraved by Earlom, and published, in 1792, by Robert Sayer, of Fleet Street. The picture is a characteristic example of the combination of artistic excellence with zoological inaccuracy which is so common in the works of even our best artists, and of which I have collected a vast number of illustrations of what may be termed the 'Unnatural History of Art.' The figures are graphically drawn. Each one is obviously an accurate portrait of the

individual represented. The action of every man is characteristic, and by those who know nothing of cocks, or cockfighting, the picture is doubtless taken as correct in every detail. The stout form of the Vizier, Asof-a-Dowla, who has left his seat, on the right-hand side of the picture, is the central figure; he is stretching out his hands towards Col. Mordaunt, who stands in a light costume, with his hands also extended. The two principals are obviously making a bet, the action being joined in by Nabob Salar Jung, who stands between them, and is recording the progress of the match, or the amount of the wager, on the fingers of his left hand. These figures are instinct with life and action. Admirable as the picture may be from an artistic point of view, as the representation of a cock-fight it is supremely ridiculous. A number of persons are assembled. They are supposed to be watching a match on which a very large sum of money is depending, but not one single individual of the group, with the exception of the three native cock-fighters in the left-hand corner, is paying the slightest attention to the match or looking at the fighting birds, which are most incorrectly drawn both in form and in action. The bird which is apparently getting the best of the combat has pointed wings, with the feathers growing in the wrong direction. The wing of a fowl is very characteristically rounded. But what have artists to do with truth when they are delineating with birds? The plumage of these birds in Zoffany's cock-fight are altogether evolved out of the inner consciousness of the artist, and the space in which they are placed to fight is quite insufficient. The manner in which the birds are held by the various persons who have got them in charge is in almost every case impracticable. The cocks are held close together, where they would immediately begin fighting, though in the hands of their owners, and it would be impossible to hold them in such proximity, nor would they submit for a moment to be restrained in the mode which is represented. Zoffany's picture would be more correctly regarded as a portrait of individuals at a cock-fight than as the representation of a combat as it actually occurred."

No mention is, however, made in the description of the difference of colour in the faces of the natives, some almost black, others very dark in complexion, as we can imagine Othello to have been, and Jack Mordaunt is as brown as an Indian. No engraving could effectually reproduce the different complexions in the painting. The colouring is rather faded by age and exposure, but even now it lights up the dining-room in which it hangs, and when first coming from the easel of Zoffany must have been, indeed, very rich in colour and a fine work of art. It was bought by my friend at the sale of General Sir Charles Imhoff, the stepson of Warren Hastings, at Daylesford House, close to Over Norton House, and was originally painted for Governor Hastings.

JOHN PICKFORD, M.A.

Newbourne Rectory, Woodbridge.

[See 6th S. xii. 325.]

JACK SHEPPARD (8th S. x. 77, 181).—It may interest MR. PICKFORD to know that there is not the slightest possible doubt whatever about the eminent Sir James Thornhill, the decorator not only of the whole of the cupola of St. Paul's Cathedral, but also of the halls of Blenheim and Greenwich Hospital, painting the celebrated Jack Sheppard's portrait, from which engravings in mezzotinto were made—the few still in preservation being objects of curiosity. Sir James Thornhill, born in 1675, was originally a house painter, but afterwards applied himself to historical subjects, and he equalled the best painters of his time. In 1719 he was appointed historical painter to George I., and knighted; he died in 1734. His connexion with Jack Sheppard was at the time the cause of the composition of the following lines, namely:—

Thornhill, 'tis thine to gild with fame
The obscure, and raise the humble name;
To make the form elude the grave,
And Sheppard from oblivion save.

Though life in vain the wretch implores,
An exile on the farthest shores,
Thy pencil brings a kind reprieve,
And bids the dying robber live.

This piece to latest time shall stand,
And show the wonders of thy hand:
Thus former masters graced their name,
And gave egregious robbers fame.

Apelles Alexander drew,
Cæsar is to Aurelius due;
Cromwell in Lily's work doth shine,
And Sheppard, Thornhill, lives in thine.

HENRY GERALD HOPE.

Clapham.

"CREMITT-MONEY" (8th S. ix. 348, 397).—May I hazard a suggestion? Is it not possible that *cremitt* may be intended for *crement*? In Cowel's 'Interpreter of Law Terms,' 1701, I find:—

"*Crementum Comitatus.* The Improvement of the King's Rents above the ancient Vicontiel Rents, for which Improvements the *Sheriff* answer'd under the Title of *Crementum Comitatus*, or *Firma de cremento Comitatus.—Hale of Sheriff's Accompts*, p. 36."

F. C. BIRKBECK TERRY.

VAUXHALL (8th S. ix. 267, 290).—There is an engraving of the Paris Vauxhall and this note in the *Ladies' Magazine*, 1787, vol. xviii.:—

"It is remarkable that, notwithstanding the gaiety of the French nation, the Vauxhall at London had subsisted for almost half a century, the delight and admiration of foreigners, before any attempt was made to introduce this pleasing and popular entertainment at Paris. It is not yet three years since the building represented in the plate was executed. In its present form it is extremely imperfect, if compared with that of the same denomination on the banks of the Thames. The gardens are small, ill-designed, and little frequented. The entertainment is chiefly under cover, and consists, for the most part, in dancing. The building is of considerable dimensions, but rather grotesque than elegant."—P. 400.

W. A. HENDERSON.

Dublin.

GOSFORD (8th S. x. 117, 172, 224).—PROF. SKEAT decides that the derivation of Gosford from the ford across the Ouse Burn is unlikely. As a staunch admirer I bow to his authority, but at the

same time will ask him to give the point further consideration after reading the following.

The Ouse Burn, after leaving Gosforth to mingle its waters with those of the Tyne, flows through far-famed Jesmond. In the Pipe Rolls of John and of Henry III., and in the Escheats from 1 Richard II. to 2 Richard III., Jesmond appears as Gesmue, Gesemue, Gesemuthe, Gesmouth, Gesemouth, Jesemuthe, Jesmouth *alias* Jesmund, and Jesemond; while Gosforth is entered as Gosseford, Gossford, and Gosseford, and in the Inquisitions p.m., 34 Henry III., as Gesford.

I was "taught to believe" that both Gosforth and Jesmond owe their origin to the stream that intersects them by the Rev. John Hodgson, who, in his 'History of Northumberland,' pt. ii. vol. i. p. 86, explains the matter thus:—

"The instances of names of places where *Ells* signifies *waters* are very numerous.....We have the Eels in Knarsdale, and Wyden Eels in Haltwhistle, names of places on the South Tyne; Wide-eels and Bridge-eels on the East Allen; on the North Tyne three are the Eels near Wark, Bellingham Eels, and Eels in the parish of Greystead; and Eels-bridge on the Derwent; in all which places the word has the same import as *waters*, or *the waters*..... There are several Elfords in the kingdom, and *Elldocksns*, where I live, in Northumberland, is the name of the butter-bur, *Tussilago petasites*, which is a river-side plant. Ellesmere in Shropshire, and Ullswater in Westmorland, have each their first syllable from the same source, and their other pleonastically added. The old word *ea* runs through numerous changes and forms in the same manner. In its singular number it is in Eaton, Water-eaton, Seaton, &c., &c. In its plural, in Exmouth, Exford, Oxford; or in the Ouse, the Esk; or Gosport, Gosbeck, Gosford, Jesmouth (corrupted into Jesmond), *i. e.*, the *mouth* of the *Ews*-burn, for the addition of the *g* and the *j* is nothing but the Saxon particle *ge*, so long unnecessarily retained in our language, and sometimes pronounced hard, and sometimes soft."

RICH. WELFORD.

CONDELL AND HEMINGE (8th S. x. 109).—I have read with great interest MR. R. CLARK'S note at the above reference. As the tablet recently placed in the church of St. Mary, Aldermanbury, records, there is no doubt that Condell and Heminge lived in the parish in which they were buried; but it would be interesting to fix, approximately, the period of their residence there. Condell certainly ended his days at Fulham, whither he came about 1623. I find him rated for a house in Back Lane (now Burlington Road) down to 1627, in December of which year he died. He was interred in the church of St. Mary, Aldermanbury, on the 29th of that month. From the Manor Rolls of Fulham I find that at a Court Baron, held 4 Feb., 1627/8, licence was granted "to demise one cottage in the occupation of Widow Condell.....in Back Lane in ffulham to the said Elizabeth Condell for —— years." (The number of years is illegible.) Elizabeth Condell, apparently, continued to live in this house till 1635, when her name no longer occurs in the rate-books. Can MR. CLARK or any other correspondent say when Elizabeth Condell died, and whether she, too, is buried at St. Mary's? I should also like to know when Condell left the parish of St. Mary, Aldermanbury.

CHAS. JAS. FÈRET.

49, Edith Road, West Kensington.

'DREAMLAND' (8th S. x. 94, 160).—I have already informed DR. MURRAY that this word is not to be found in Talfourd's edition of Lamb's 'Letters' (1837), but it may be desirable to state the fact here as well. C. C. B.

CHANNEL ISLANDS (8th S. viii. 168, 258; ix. 272).—I have to thank MR. COLLINGWOOD LEE for his reference to Métivier, whose dictionary of this dialect I have found very helpful. There is a most singular pronunciation of the letter *r* in the Channel Islands, of which I fancy there is no information to be had in print. Perhaps, as this paper circulates in those parts, some reader can give me either a reference or personal account of it. Dr. Sweet (than whom we have no greater authority on phonetics) once told me the middle of the tongue was used in producing this trill, but I believe he has never written about it. To my ear it sounds like the English *th* with perhaps something of the *z*, so that, for example, the surname Romeril sounds like the English Rumsey. One would be glad to know if there is any means of tracing the age of this phenomenon.

JAS. PLATT, Jun.

UMBRIEL (8th S. ix. 507; x. 53, 118, 164).—Perhaps the following passage from an old book may throw a side light on the meaning this word is intended to convey:—

"Sylvester is to say grene/ that is to wyte grete in contemplacyon of heuenly thynges. And a tyler in labourynge hymselfe. He was *vmbrous* or shadowous/ y^t is to saye he was colde and refrygerat fro all concupyscence of the flesshe/ ful of bowes emonge ye trees of heuen."—'Golden Legend,' Wynkyn de Worde, 1512, f. 66.

R. R.

Boston, Lincolnshire.

PARSON OF A MOIETY OF A CHURCH (8th S. ix. 68, 158, 436, 491).—Shorwell, I.W., is an instance that "has existed from the beginning of the fourteenth century and still continues" (see 'Hampshire Field Club Papers,' ii. 223).

WINTONENSIS.

COMMODORE BEYNON (8th S. x. 216).—At the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, MR. HORSMAN should apply for the 'Admiralty List-Books,' 1700–1800, from which can be ascertained the names of all ships at the Nore station, and the names of the principal officers, of whom the commodore would be one. Should the list-books fail to yield the desired information, search might be made through the 'Admiralty Muster-Books' (also at the Public Record Office) of the various ships at

the Nore. These books contain the names of all the crews—officers, men, and boys; and from them might be traced the officer's career and progress in the navy. This would be a slow business, of course.

E. G. Clayton.

Richmond.

"Clem"=to Suffer from Cold (8th S. x. 48).—The word *clem*, or *clemurin*, is given in Jago's 'Glossary of the Cornish Dialect' as meaning "very thirsty," although there is no reference in Murray's 'English Dictionary' to its use in Cornwall. I am writing, however, more particularly to point out that in Welsh Wales, including Cardiganshire, the mongrel verb *clemio* is used for "to want food," while another mongrel word *starvo* is used for to suffer cold.

D. M. R.

Aberdare.

In Sussex I have heard *clem* used as starved with cold; but it seems to be derived from S. *clæmian*, G. *klemmen*, D. *klemmer*=to starve for want of food, the intestines being *clammed*, or stuck together (hence *clammy*). "Hard is the choice, when the valiant must either eat their arms or clem" (B. Jonson, 'Every Man out of His Humour'); or, again, from 'The Shadow of Ashlydyat': "I could not let him clam. I was clamming myself"; and, again, "Better clem than go to the workhouse." In the West of England *clammed* is choked with thirst. It seems there are fourteen meanings of *clam*, only two of which refer to *clem*.

Caroline Steggall.

In Sheffield (where I served my apprenticeship in the fifties) it was equally comprehensive English to say a man had been *clemmed* to death when he had died for want of the bare necessaries of life, when the fire was low in the grate, and the weather severe, to grumble one felt half *clemmed* to death with cold. *Kleumen*, as St. Swithin remarks, is the Dutch rendering of the same word. Here on the island of Schiermonnikoog (from *Schier*, grey, in Frisian dialect, and *monniken*, monks, *i. e.*, grey monks) it is used in the following ways: "Verkleumd van konde," *i. e.*, benumbed with cold; and "Wy hebben daar zittten kleumen," *i. e.*, to feel cold.

Harry Hems.

Schiermonnikoog.

Avery (8th S. x. 196).—Among the MSS. of Miss Ffarington, of Worden Hall, Lancs., is a letter from Richard Bradshaw, nephew of Bradshaw, the regicide, dated Hamburg, 24 September, 1650, in which he writes:—

"The next day after the chief Burger Master Muller (a notable enemy to the state of England, into whom the former deputy, Mr. Avery, distilled the principles of malignancy) clapt an arrest upon some goods belonging to a merchant of the Company," &c.

Cromwell announced the appointment of Bradshaw to be British Resident at Hamburg on 2 April, 1650, and he so remained certainly until 1658 or 1659, the latter part of the time being addressed as "Embassador from his Highness the Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England" (see Hist. MSS. Com., Appendix to Sixth Report).

From this it would appear that Mr. Avery was the immediate predecessor of Richard Bradshaw in the Residentship at Hamburg, presumably up to the end of 1649 or the beginning of 1650.

W. Norman.

Arms of Ipswich School (8th S. x. 51).—If the dragon mentioned in the query as being one of the supporters in the arms of Queen Elizabeth is coloured all brown it may be an error of the artist. Sylvanus Morgan, in his 'Armilogia,' p. 189, says: "The red dragon hath since been honoured by Henry the seventh, Henry the eighth, Edward the sixth, and Queen Mary; onely Queen Elizabeth changed it into gold." Perhaps the example given in Willement's 'Regal Heraldry,' plate xx., which is copied from a drawing of the arms of Queen Elizabeth in the British Museum (MS. Harleian, No. 6096), will explain the matter. The blazon of all the arms is not requisite, but the sinister supporter is a dragon or, the scales on the back from the head to the middle of hind legs brown, tail of the second. Respecting the proper colour of dragons, Randle Holme says:—

"The Epidaurian Dragon is of a yellow gold colour, &c. Indian Dragons have combs on their heads, their backs being somewhat brown, and all their bodies less scaly than others; their other parts of yellowish fiery colour, &c. The Georgian or Median Dragon, some black, red, yellow, and ashen colour."

It appears from this account that the Indian dragon (without comb) is the one used in the arms above mentioned.

John Radcliffe.

The Arms or Ex-libris of Edward Jenner' M.D. (8th S. ix. 488; x. 203).—Mr. Mockler's collection of Jenner relics, including his books, coat of arms, MSS., diplomas, &c., is now exhibiting at Cardiff. I have written to Mr. Mockler to send you a catalogue. The origin of the Jenner family would be something to trace. I notice that there is "I. Jennor" amongst the signatures to "The Solemn League and Covenant." See King's Library, British Museum, under glass in case amongst the specimens of fine printing.

D. B.

Flat-irons (8th S. viii. 428, 510; ix. 96, 174; x. 97, 200).—The flat-iron was invented by Isaac Wilkinson, of Cartmel, in 1740, or about that year. He also invented—for which he took out a patent in 1756, or about that year—the box iron. Isaac Wilkinson was the son of John Wilkinson, who was called the father of the Staffordshire iron trade, who made the first iron boat to float in the canal at Bradley in 1787; it was a seventy ton boat. Dr. Priestley married his daughter. The history

of Wilkinson is to be found in the 'Annals of Cartmel,' by Stockdale, published by Kitchin, of Ulverston, in 1872. SWANN HURRELL.

St. Leonards.

Miscellaneous.

NOTES ON BOOKS, &c.

The History of the Island of Antigua from the First Settlement in 1635 to the Present Time. By Vere Langford Oliver, M.R.C.S. 2 vols. (Mitchell & Hughes.)

THE title of Mr. Oliver's book conveys but a faint idea of its contents. Its place is with the great county histories rather than with the histories of separate countries. Close upon a decade has been occupied in its production, the circumstances attending its bulk and growth being these. Mr. Oliver's own family being at one time settled in Antigua, he was moved to collect information concerning it and concerning the families with whom his own was connected by marriage. He was thus finally led to compile the pedigrees of all those formerly resident in the island. During a visit subsequently paid to Antigua, he copied all the monumental inscriptions in the various churchyards and plantation burial grounds, together with copious extracts from the parish registers and local records, fortunately preserved. The information thus obtained, supplemented by a search through the colonial papers in the Record Office, constitutes the basis of the two noble volumes now issued, the interest of which is principally genealogical. An historical introduction has, indeed, been compiled with much zeal, and, without constituting in itself a complete history of this, in some respects, fairest of the Leeward Caribbees in the West Indies, may be reckoned at least as an all-important collection of *mémoires pour servir*. The whole is enriched with admirably executed maps, charts, and portraits, and constitutes a work of highest interest and value as well as of profound research. The historical introduction begins with 1493, when Columbus named the island after a church in Seville, even then christened Santa Maria de la Antigua. It was again visited in 1520 by Spaniards under the licentiate Don Antonio Serrano, whose orders to colonize this with other islands were not carried out. It was accordingly for the English to make, about 1632, the first settlement in the island, which was done by a party sent from St. Christopher's by Sir Thomas Warner, the founder of the English colonies in the Leeward Islands. Its history in these early stages is wholly dependent upon that of the parent colony. Antigua is mentioned in the grant obtained from Charles I. on 2 July, 1627, by the first Earl of Carlisle (the notorious spendthrift and favourite, James Hay), of all the Caribbees, now occupied by a "large and copious colony of English, to be hereafter named the Carlisle, or the Islands of Carlisle Province." It, the grant, was obtained as a means of repaying the merchant adventurers interested in Warner's venture. The names of these include, of course, those of men whose descent is subsequently traced. An account of the arrangements, alliances, and feuds with the French under D'Esnambuc follows, and these, with fights with the Spaniards, form the early history of the colony. Documents concerning the early administration of Antigua, begun in 1635, are few, though an early list of settlers has been traced. The sale for life of negroes and negresses was authorized in 1636. History quickens when, on 29 April, 1650, Lord Willoughby of Parham arrived at Barbados, proclaimed Charles II. at all the islands of his government, and took up a large tract of land at Antigua, which he named Parham, after his ancestral estate in Suffolk, causing the Parliament to dispatch a fleet under Sir George Ayscue for the reduction of the West Indies. In the Royalist discomfiture which followed, Lord Willoughby obtained very favourable treatment, though many prominent Royalists were banished. In his translation of César de Rochefort's 'Histoire Naturelle et Morale des Antilles,' 1658, published in 1666 with the title of 'History of the Caribby Islands,' John Davies gives the first English account of Antigua (Antegi), which he describes as abundant in fish, most sorts of wild fowl, and tame cattle, and inhabited by seven to eight hundred men. In consequence of the low price of labour, sugar, ginger, and indigo were now cultivated. In 1660 Jonas Langford headed the irruption of Quakers. The persecution begun in 1664 by Col. John Brinkly was arrested, and Brinkly was dismissed from his post of governor. The French conquest followed, and much trouble was experienced until the signature of the Treaty of Breda by the English, French, and Dutch, when a former division of Antigua between the English and French was restored. It is impossible for us to follow *seriatim* all the incidents of the British occupation of Antigua. The documents illustrating these, quoted by Mr. Oliver, occupy no fewer than 160 close-printed folio pages in double columns. The remainder of the work, so far as hitherto carried out, a third volume being apparently necessary, is occupied with the genealogies, which are very elaborate. That of the author's family begins with Richard Oliver, of Antigua, merchant and planter, who was member of the General Assembly 1703, subsequently Speaker, J.P. and captain, major, and colonel of militia, and ultimately member of the Council, from whom the author traces his descent. Exceptionally arduous must have been the task of incorporating all the matter, much of it sufficiently curious, included in the work. Under certain names much information of great historic value is afforded. To the historian and the genealogist the work is alike valuable; to the herald it is indispensable. In literary and typographical respects the work is to be commended.

English Essays. With an Introduction by J. H. Lobban. (Blackie & Son.)

THE new volume of the "Warwick Library" consists of a representative selection of essays from English writers, beginning with Bacon and ending with Lamb. The selector is, to some extent, handicapped by the necessity of omitting purely literary criticisms, which appear in another volume of the series. Cowley, Defoe, Steele, Addison, Fielding, Pope, Colman, Cowper, Chesterfield, Walpole, Johnson, Goldsmith, Leigh Hunt, and Hazlitt, besides those named, are well represented, and the only name we miss is Shenstone. The selection is well made, and the volume is readable and pleasant. Mr. Lobban's introduction on the essay is a sound piece of work.

The Island of Capri. By F. Gregorovius. Translated by M. Douglass Fairbairn. (Fisher Unwin.)

THOUGH familiar enough in Germany, the studies of Italian life and scenery of Ferdinand Gregorovius are little known in this country. The present work, which saw the light in 1853, is, we fancy, included in the 'Wanderjahre in Italien.' It gives a floridly picturesque account of the scenery and peasant life of an exceptionally lovely and, in a sense, favoured little spot, which, on account of physical difficulties, is rarely visited by tourists. Its tone is acidulated in speaking of things English, which is a matter of no moment, and it makes a respectable display of erudition. The translation is satisfactory. We are a little puzzled, however, to understand the coin. When we read of the watcher at Ant-

Capri, and learn that "his pay is thirty grosts daily," we do not know whether to pity or congratulate him. Ten shillings a day, which the phrase conveys to Englishmen, is good pay for a workman in England, and in Capri, where flesh meat is all but unknown and people live principally on fruit, it is a fortune.

Wenhaston: Curious Parish Records. By the Rev. J. B. Clave. (Halesworth, Gale.)

To compile this account of what is curious in his parish has evidently been a labour of love to the vicar of it, and we can only say that we wish there were more vicars disposed to take so much trouble. There is a full list of the vicars given from 1309, and of the churchwardens from 1586. Some extracts from the churchwardens' accounts are very interesting, and Mr. Clave gives a list of what he calls "old-fashioned words" that is of the greatest use to those who study provincialisms.

Transactions of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society. Vol. VIII. Part. II. (Leicester, Clarke & Hodgson.)

This Society continues to do good work, and by no means the least thing that it does is to encourage people to take care of all objects of antiquity. The Rev. E. H. Bates contributes a paper to this number upon the carved "Agnus Dei" recently dug up at Shawell. It seems to have formed a part of the old church; but that building was taken down in 1865, with the exception of the tower. An engraving is given of the newly-found "Agnus Dei," and, so far as we are able to judge from it, we should say that it is in all likelihood not later than the middle of the eleventh century.

Cheshire Notes and Queries. New Series. No. I. Vol. I. (Stockport, Swan & Co.; London, Stock.)

We trust that the new series of *Cheshire Notes and Queries* will be as useful as we have found many of its brethren which represent other shires; we believe this will be the case, but the present number, if not a failure, is very far from a success. Cheshire is so interesting a county that we can hardly doubt that future issues will contain much more strictly local matter. Perhaps the number before us has been brought out in a hurry. If this be not so we cannot pardon the amount of matter it contains which has no more claim to represent Cheshire than any other county in England. Take, for example, the long paper entitled 'The Power of the Press,' which occupies eight double-columned pages. The only relation it bears to Cheshire is that it consists of a lecture delivered last March before the Stockport Reading Society. It is in itself worth reading, but its proper place is in the columns of a newspaper, or in a volume of detached essays, not in a periodical devoted to the history of the county. Much the same may be said of another paper, which deals with the fanciful ways by which it was proposed some two hundred years ago to raise money to supply the wants of the exchequer. The documents given are interesting, and we do not remember seeing them before, but we cannot see what claim they have to appear here.

Most of the truly local papers are really interesting. There is one signed Cedric, which relates to Wilmslow and Chorley, which tells us what that neighbourhood was like in the early forties. The writer was in those days a lad working as a bricklayer at the building of an hotel somewhere, if we understand him aright, between Alderley Edge and Wilmslow. Cedric must possess either a most serviceable memory, or a series of well-furnished note-books. We are always pleased when we find comparatively modern times treated of in periodicals of this character. What would we now give if anybody had thought it worth while two or three hundred years ago to record the changes they or their fathers remembered? Yet the days in which occurred the infancy and youth of our railway system and the death of the old stage-coaches will some day be as interesting as those of the Tudors and Stuarts are to us.

We never knew until W. S., of Stockport, enlightened us that there is a mermaid in Rostherne Mere. Most unfortunately he has never seen it himself; but a native of Rostherne has told him that this is the case. When W. S. unhappily expressed some doubt as to the existence of this interesting creature, "he solemnly affirmed that this was the case, and added that at certain times this mermaid rang a bell underneath the water, and those who were near could hear the sound." There are other people in the village who have confirmed the statement. A Cheshire Antiquary, who does not give his name, has communicated a list of Cheshire sheriffs. So far as we can test it, it seems accurate. Should it be so, he has done a great service. Most of the lists of sheriffs we come upon for the various English shires are very inaccurate. There is an interesting notice of the career of the Rev. Thomas Garratt, who was at one time vicar of Audley and who wrote many verses. If now remembered at all out of Cheshire it is as a vigorous pamphleteer regarding what is commonly spoken of as the Catholic Emancipation Bill.

We should have been very sorry to have been deprived of the interesting notes concerning "Tom" Hughes, though he was not a Cheshire man and his life's work had little connexion with the county.

Notts and Derbyshire Notes and Queries. Edited by J. Potter Briscoe. (Nottingham and Derby, Murray.)

This is a publication which we believe endeavours to do good work, but so far as we can judge it would be far better were it joined to some similar magazine. The country cannot support the number of local papers of a semi-antiquarian kind that have sprung up during the last few years, and they injure each other. If the lesser local *Notes and Queries* could but be more compressed, we should have fewer but far better magazines devoted to the study of the past.

Notices to Correspondents.

We must call special attention to the following notices:

On all communications must be written the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to answer queries privately.

To secure insertion of communications correspondents must observe the following rule. Let each note, query, or reply be written on a separate slip of paper, with the signature of the writer and such address as he wishes to appear. Correspondents who repeat queries are requested to head the second communication "Duplicate."

A. L. Artois ("Ludlow").—Consult the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' under "Edmond Ludlow, the Regicide."

Corrigendum.—P. 239, col. 2, l. 25 from bottom, for "gerantur" read *gerantur*.

Notice.

Editorial Communications should be addressed to "The Editor of 'Notes and Queries'"—Advertisements and Business Letters to "The Publisher"—at the Office, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.

We beg leave to state that we decline to return communications which, for any reason, we do not print; and to this rule we can make no exception.

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